

LYNCHBURG CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item Summary

MEETING DATE: **June 14, 2005**

AGENDA ITEM NO.: 14

CONSENT:

REGULAR: **X**

CLOSED SESSION:

(Confidential)

ACTION: **X**

INFORMATION:

ITEM TITLE: **Appropriation of Child and Family Services Funding (Program Improvement Plan)**

RECOMMENDATION: Consider amending the FY 2006 City/Federal/State Aid Projects Fund Budget and appropriating \$148,522 with resources of \$118,818 from the Commonwealth of Virginia, and \$29,704 from the FY 2005 General Fund Reserve for Contingencies to fund the Program Improvement Plan required by the State to address child welfare outcomes pertaining to children's safety, permanency, and well-being.

SUMMARY: The Federal Child and Family Services Review identified a number of areas in which the State of Virginia falls below the established national standard in Child Welfare. As a result of the review, the Virginia General Assembly has provided funding to all local Social Services agencies to address these issues. The Lynchburg Division of Social Services allocation of \$148,522 will be used to:

- 1) Decrease the percentage of children who are the victims of another substantiated or indicated report of maltreatment within a 6 month period.
- 2) Decrease the percentage of foster children who experience maltreatment from foster parents of facility staff members.
- 3) Decrease the percentage of children re-entering foster care within 12 months of leaving foster care.
- 4) Increase the percentage of children who reunify with their prior custodian within 12 months of entering foster care.
- 5) Increase the percentage of children who are adopted within 24 months of entering foster care.
- 6) Increase the percentage of children who have two or less foster care placements in the first year of their latest removal from their home.

The plan that has been presented to the Virginia Department of Social Services has been approved and is attached.

In order to adequately address these issues, the agency will hire two (2) Social Workers for Foster Care and one (1) Senior Social Worker and one (1) Aide III for Child Protective and Family Services.

This funding will be permanent for the FY 2007 State Fiscal Year, assuming the agency meets the targets set for addressing each item.

PRIOR ACTION(S): June 7, 2005 Finance Committee

FISCAL IMPACT: Appropriation of \$29,704 from the FY 2005 General Fund Reserve for Contingencies. This will cover the local match requirement for FY 2006. the local match will have to be budgeted in FY 2007 and subsequent years if the program continues.

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ATTACHMENT(S):

“Local Department of Social Services (LDSS) Response to the Program Improvement Plan (PIP) Allocation”

E-mail from Lynette Isbell, CFSR Coordinator, approving the Lynchburg Social Service Program Improvement Plan.

Resolution

REVIEWED BY: lkp

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED That the City/Federal/State Aid Projects Fund FY 2006 budget is amended and \$148,522 is appropriated with resources of \$118,818 from the Commonwealth of Virginia, and \$29,704 from the FY 2005 General Fund Reserve for Contingencies, to fund the Program Improvement Plan required by the State to address child welfare outcomes pertaining to children's safety, permanency, and well-being.

Introduced:

Adopted:

Certified:

Clerk of Council

082L